

VZCZCXRO8664

PP RUEHAG RUEHAST RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHDBU RUEHDF RUEHIK RUEHLH RUEHLN  
RUEHLZ RUEHPW RUEHROV RUEHVK RUEHYG  
DE RUEHAH #1300 3331014  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 291014Z NOV 07  
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9801  
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 3056  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0871  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0745  
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY 1321  
RHMFIUU/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE PRIORITY 1960

UNCLAS ASHGABAT 001300

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN, SCA/PPD, NEA/SCA/EX, M/A/OPR/OS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AMGT](#) [ASCH](#) [TX](#)

SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN: MOVEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
ISSUE

11. (U) Sensitive but unclassified. Not for public Internet.

12. (SBU) The Government of Turkmenistan has decided to support the registration of the Quality Schools International-run (QSI) Ashgabat International School. Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Foreign Minister Rashit Meredov called in the Charge November 29 to pass the news that "the government is ready to work on resolving this issue." Meredov said this would involve a multi-step process. The first step would be a meeting between the Embassy and the Ministry of Education (MOE), where the Ministry would explain what documents might be needed in order for the school to receive proper status in Turkmenistan. He also indicated that MOE could also lay out some requirements, including possibly a Turkmen History course. Following that, the next step would be a meeting with the Ashgabat mayor's office. Meredov said MFA would organize the meeting with MOE and get back to the Embassy within a few days regarding timing.

13. (SBU) Meredov said both the Embassy and State Department officials had raised this issue numerous times. He said registering the school would be mutually beneficial to both sides. In addition to the U.S. Embassy, other embassies and businesses send their children there, and regularizing the status of the international school is important to those families as well.

14. (SBU) COMMENT: This is good news. Registration will allow the school to expand its facilities and take in more students. It is already bursting at the seams. With more and more companies interested in doing business in Turkmenistan (and with others that are already here planning to expand operations) the expatriate community is destined to grow. Nevertheless, while we want to promote the school's interests and facilitate this process, QSI is a private company, and it will be up to them to decide if any proposed requirements are acceptable. END COMMENT.  
CURRAN